



## Virginia Commission on Youth

April 5, 2011  
9:00 a.m.  
House Room C

### MINUTES

#### **Attending:**

Senators Yvonne Miller and Harry Blevins  
Delegates Mamyé BaCote, Robert Brink, Mark Cole, Christopher Peace, and Beverly Sherwood  
Citizen members Gary Close, Anthony Dale and Joy Myers

#### **Not Attending:**

Senator Edward Houck; Delegates Anne Crockett-Stark

#### **Staff Attending:**

Amy M. Atkinson, Leah Hamaker, Joyce Garner

#### **I. Call to Order and Opening Remarks**

*Senator Yvonne B. Miller, Chair*

Senator Miller called the meeting to order at 9:00 and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Commission's 2011 study year.

#### **II. Approval of Commission on Youth 2011 Study Plans**

*Amy M. Atkinson, Executive Director*

- Comparison of Academic Achievement in Virginia and Leading Industrialized Nations  
Delegate Brink asked that the length of the school year and the school day be addressed in the study.
- School Enrollment Practices for Kinship Caregivers  
Ms. Atkinson recounted testimony in the Commission's 2010 Kinship Care study of a grandmother's difficulty in trying to enroll a child in her care. Delegate Peace suggested that the Advisory Group work to develop a template for school divisions to follow when enrolling children in informal kinship care placements.
- *Evidence-based Practices for Children and Adolescents with Mental Health Treatment Needs*

Motion made and passed to approve the three study plans. Approved unanimously.

### **III. Activities in State Government Related to Youth and Families**

*Ms. Atkinson.*

Ms. Atkinson introduced the first Activities of 2011 and highlighted initiatives described throughout the sections which were relevant to youth and family issues of pressing interest to Commission members, including a new Autism Council in the legislative branch which resulted from passage of Senator Houck's 2010 General Assembly Session legislation. A new section on Re-Entry initiatives has been added. Related to that topic, Secretary Decker will present to the Commission later in the study year.

Of particular note is the upcoming annual Family Impact Seminar, for which Commission on Youth members are encouraged to attend. This year's topic is Workforce Development. Members will receive further information on the May 17<sup>th</sup> event.

### **IV. Virginia's Juvenile Justice System and Juvenile Transfer**

*Holly Berry Boyle, Policy Analyst  
Virginia State Crime Commission*

Ms. Boyle is presenting on juveniles tried as adults in response to a request on November 15, 2010 by Delegate BaCote.

During Ms. Boyle's powerpoint presentation, Delegate BaCote asked for clarification on Subsection B of the Code's provisions. She also asked whether moving a juvenile to adult court affected their privacy rights. Ms. Boyle indicated that it does negate those rights.

### **V. 2011 Meeting Calendar**

Ms. Atkinson polled members to see what their interest and availability would be for meeting the afternoon of May 17, following the morning's Family Impact Seminar. Members asked that their next meeting be scheduled on this date. The meeting time will be announced.

### **VI. Adjourn**

Senator Miller thanked the members for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

No public comment was received.